

## **SURVIAC Success Story**

## Counter-IED in a Permissive/Semi-Permissive Environment <a href="http://iac.dtic.mil/iatac">http://iac.dtic.mil/iatac</a>

Customer:	U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC)
Challenge:	The proliferation of Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) presents a significant threat to Special Operations Forces (SOF) deploying to operational areas throughout the world. Such proliferation places SOF personnel at risk, whether they are being specifically targeted or are involved in an incident as a result of affiliation or location. In permissive or semi-permissive environments, it is unlikely that SOF will be able to employ many of the Counter-IED enablers – such as hand-held detectors, up-armored vehicles, etc to detect, deter, or defeat an IED; SOF must therefore identify other measures that reduce their chances of being targeted.
Approach:	U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) tasked SURVIAC to develop training that would provide personnel with practical measures to reduce their operational signature, increase their awareness of threats, and avoid or mitigate their chances of being effectively targeted or engaged. SURVIAC conducted extensive research and interviewed ARSOF veterans to understand how and why IEDs are employed. The training identifies best practices that help to reduce risk in foreign environments where they may be selectively targeted, or where they may become victims through partner association, or geographical presence at the time of device initiation.
Value:	Training is tailored for Soldiers within the ARSOF community with limited experience operating in OCONUS environments other than Afghanistan and Iraq, and provides refresher training for experienced ARSOF personnel conducting partner nation training and unilateral operations in IED environments. With active-duty personnel serving outside the U.S. in more than 150 countries around the world, the training is critical to enhancing their survivability and minimizing the effects of surprise attacks on U.S. personnel in other than combat areas.

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